



Thetis program



May 2018

A middle term presentation



3 degrees of vulnerability

1. Being Refugee is in itself a first degree of vulnerability.
2. The personal weakness of a refugee (unaccompanied minor, a woman alone etc.) constitutes a second degree of vulnerability.
3. The obscurity, in which a refugee with some personal weakness finds himself/herself, constitutes a third degree of vulnerability.



The initial idea of Thetis program

1. We aim at the **most vulnerable** among the vulnerable.
2. **Specialised and exclusive** action for them.
3. **We search for them**, we don't expect them to come to us.
4. **Case management.**



Why refugees with disability?

1. Because they are refugees.
2. Because they have a personal special problem.
3. Because they are often «non-visible».



Because they are often «non-visible»



LE HANDICAP
VISUEL



LES MALADIES
INVALIDANTES



LE HANDICAP
PSYCHIQUE



LE HANDICAP
MOTEUR



DÉFICIENCE
AUDITIVE



LA DÉFICIENCE
INTELECTUELLE



20%
VISIBLES

80%
INVISIBLES



Does anybody care about refugees with disability?

- Various people care about them...
- But no one has them as a priority!
- Their care is complicated and needs multidisciplinary teams.
- Result: usually they fill long queues!



The 7 steps

1. Search and identification
2. Full systematic registration
3. First aid
4. Planning of therapeutic scheme
5. Link with Hellenic Health and Welfare System
6. Coordination with each ethnic group
7. Follow up



What «disability» means

Disability is an impairment that may be cognitive, developmental, intellectual, mental, physical, sensory, or some combination of these, that substantially affects a person's life activities.

Αναπηρία είναι ο περιορισμός της κοινής δραστηριότητας λόγου, έργου ή άμεσης αντίληψης λόγω σωματικής ή πνευματικής βλάβης ενός ανθρώπου.

Le **handicap** est la limitation des possibilités d'interaction d'un individu avec son environnement, menant à des difficultés psychologiques, intellectuelles, sociales et/ou physiques.



The core of Disability

- Not the initial problem in itself.
- But the result of this problem (the consequence).



Few examples

A Multiple Sclerosis:

- It is not a disability if the patient is functioning properly.
- It is a disability if the patient cannot move etc.



Few examples

A mental retardation:

- It is not a disability if the person functions without problem in the community.
- It is a disability if a person cannot cope with basic functions on her/his own.



Few examples

A manic-depressive disorder:

- It is not a disability if the individual, knowing his or her condition and following his/her treatment, functions satisfactorily in the community.
- It is a disability if the person's disorder, for various reasons, does not allow her/him to function smoothly in the community.



Practically

Try to separate different kinds of disability in order to exclude some of them is:

- Counterproductive.
- But also impossible.
- In most of the cases physical disability is accompanied by psychiatric problems.



About cost

- Exclude part of disabilities does not reduce the cost of the program.
- Meanwhile maintain the all «disability» does not increase the cost.



Activity of April 2018

New cases	23
Repetitive appointments	102
Hospitalization	7
Provision of medical equipment	8
Carers provided care to 39 beneficiaries	

Total number: 138



Difficulties of Thetis program

1. Many challenges because of the originality of the program.
2. The «reluctance» of some NGO.
3. Difficulty to access the camps.
4. The delay of «Progress».
5. The three-month contracts of a «year-program».



Strong point of Thetis program

1. Its originality: the shaping of unified policy for refugees with disabilities
2. The faith of UNHCR in this protection program.
3. The good collaboration with ΕΣΑμεΑ, ΕΠΑΨΥ, the most of the NGOs and municipalities.
4. The good cooperation with Ministry (lately).
5. The positive results until now.



Our vision

1. One standardized data base for all refugees with disabilities.
2. Selectively open for UNHCR, Government, NGOs, institutional donors etc.
3. One agency especially dedicated to refugees with disabilities.

→ **Analyzing the Swedish example**
(186.000 refugees in Sweden!)



The challenge

Achieve in Greece a pioneer project, useful to thousands of the most vulnerable refugees.

This will be achieved with the support of UNHCR and any other actors contributing to it.